

REMARKS

Applicant has studied the Final Office Action dated July 26, 2005. No claims have been amended. No new matter has been added. It is submitted that the application, is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Objection to the Specification

The Examiner objected to the specification because the specification states "The modem unit 11 supports an FXO interface" on page 3, line 4; however, the term "FXO" has not been defined. In response, the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 4 has been amended such that the term "FXO" is defined as a foreign exchange office. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-2, 4-9, 11-13, and 16-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Publication No. 2003/0152105 A1 to Arimilli ("Arimilli") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,740,241 to Koenig et al. ("Koenig et al."). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Arimilli and Koenig et al. references, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the invention of claims 1, 5 and 16. Claims 1 and 5 recite "a local ring generating unit for notifying a connection request signal of the FXO interface to the modem unit from within the interface device by transmitting a ring alarm signal to the modem unit when the interface device senses the connection request signal." Original claim 16 recites a method for generating a local ring signal and providing the ring signal to a modem unit when receiving a call from an external device.

In contrast, Arimilli describes a data multiplexing network, but does not teach or suggest internally generating a ring. Moreover, as stated by the Examiner on page 5 of the present Office Action, Arimilli does not disclose a ring generating unit.

Koenig et al. describes a line interface unit which converts a T1 digital access line to 12 to 24 individual analog telephone circuits (see column 16, lines 27-33). Thus, unlike the present invention of claims 1, 5 and 16, Koenig et al. does not suggest an interface device for communicating data using an analog exclusive line.

Furthermore, with respect to the Examiner's remarks that an "internally-generated ringback tone" is generated by Koenig et al., the Applicant respectfully disagrees that the aforementioned ringback tone teaches what is recited in claims 1, 5 and 16. First, as mentioned

above, Koenig et al. converts a digital line into a plurality of analog lines. Thus, Koenig et al. does not use an analog exclusive line as in claims 1, 5 and 16. Second, the ringback tone is generated in Koenig et al. as a result of activating a self diagnostic test to verify channel functionality (see column 17, lines 10-17). In contrast, the present invention teaches generating a ring signal when sensing a connection request from an external source to notify the presence of the connection request. Third, the ringback tone of Koenig et al. is provided to a telephone line, whereas the ring signal of the present invention is transmitted to a modem unit.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that combining Arimilli and Koenig et al. do not teach or suggest the claimed invention. In particular, Applicant submits that the cited references do not teach or suggest an interface device using an analog exclusive line comprising a local ring generating unit for notifying a connection request signal of the FXO interface to the modem unit from within the interface device. Thus, it is respectfully requested that claims 1, 5 and 16, and the claims respectively dependent therefrom, be allowed.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above remarks, Applicant submits that the present Response places all claims of the present application in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is requested.

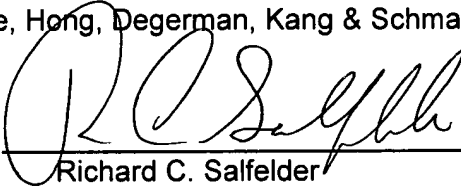
No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein; and no amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicants have argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California, telephone number (213) 623-2221 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 26, 2005

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